

Amendment to 10/716,546 dated 14 April 2005
Responsive to Office Action mailed 14 December 2004

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REMARKS

Claims 1 to 5 and 7 are pending after this amendment. Claims 6 and 8 to 19 have been cancelled to expedite prosecution.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "shaping the edge of the sheet by rotating the picker bar by at least about 90 degrees to bend the sheet around the heel portion while maintaining engagement of the edge of the sheet by the sheet engagement structure". Claims 2 to 5 and 7 depend from claim 1.

The Office Action cites Shimizu et al. and Olexy in relation to claim 1. Claim 1, as amended, recites bending the sheet around an elongated heel portion by rotating a picker bar. Shimizu et al. does not teach or suggest an elongated heel portion or bending a sheet around an elongated heel portion. Claim 1, as amended, recites "rotating the picker bar by at least about 90 degrees". Olexy does not disclose this feature of claim 1. Olexy discloses rotating vacuum cups to a 35 degree angle (Col. 4, ln. 19-23).

Claim 4 recites forming a partially tubular curl. The Applicant submits that neither of Shimizu et al. and Olexy show forming a partially tubular curl.

Amended claim 5 recites "with a movement that carries the shaped edge over the stack in a direction toward an edge of the sheet opposed to the shaped edge". The Applicant submits that this feature is not taught by Shimizu et al. or Olexy.

For the reasons above, the Applicant submits that the pending claims, as amended, patentably distinguish the cited references.

The cancellation of claims 8 to 19 is submitted to render moot the objection to the drawings.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and comments set out above.

Respectfully submitted,

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